THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.
Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

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Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec., Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.
All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

SPECIAL MEETINGS.

SATURDAY JULY 10th.
1 p.m. Allan, Cockshutt's.
1 p.m. Ranwell Street and Old Ford Road
4 p.m. Libra Road
4 p.m. Monier Road
5 p.m. Wyke Road
5 p.m. Coborn Road Station

SUNDAY JULY 11th.
11 a.m Salmon and Ball
11.30 a.m Morpeth Street
12 noon Grove Road and Roman Road
12.30 p.m Roman Road and Vernon Road
11 a.m Dock Gates, Poplar
12 noon Chrisp Street and Charles Street
12.30 p.m Suffolk St. & Upper North St.
3.30 p.m Victoria Park
3.45 p.m Ordnance Road & Barking Road
6 p.m. Custom Town Station
8 p.m. Beckton Road
8 p.m. Dock Gates, Poplar
8 p.m. Grove Road and Old Ford Road

MONDAY, JULY 12th.
3 p.m. Armagh Road
8 p.m. Lesbia Road
8 p.m. Mare Street & Well Street, Hackney
8 p.m. "Peacock," Canning Town
8 p.m. Green Gate
9 p.m. Beckton Road
8 p.m. Dock Gates

TUESDAY, JULY 13th.
3 p.m. Bow Women's Hall
3 p.m. 175 Dalston Lane
8 p.m. Grundy Street and Kerbey Street
9 p.m. Burdett Road
8 p.m. Salmon's Lane

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14th.
8 p.m. St. Stephen's Road & Roman Road
9 p.m. Ranwell Street & Old Ford Road
9.30 p.m. Chisenhale Rd. & Driffield Rd.
8 p.m. Chrisp Street
9 p.m. Suffolk Street & Upper North St.

THURSDAY, JULY 15th.
8 p.m. 124 Barking Road
9 p.m. Beckton Road
8 p.m. Well St. & Mare St., Hackney
8 p.m. 175 Dalston Lane
9 p.m. Dalston Lane & Pembury Road
8 p.m. Oakley Place, Old Kent Road
8 p.m. 53 St. Leonard Street

FRIDAY, JULY 16th.
3 p.m. Poplar Women's Hall
8 p.m. Piggott Street
9 p.m. Upper North Street
8 p.m. Beckton Road
8 p.m. Victoria Road Square
9 p.m. Gibraltar Road

MOTHERS AND BABIES.

The season of infantile diarrhœa will soon be upon us, when babies, especially babies of necessitous mothers, who are themselves undernourished, and cannot afford to buy good fresh milk, will be falling dangerously ill. The calls on our four mother and baby centres, for milk, eggs, medicines, and doctoring and nursing care, will become more frequent and more urgent as the summer advances. Will you help by sending us some money for this work?

Will you send us new laid eggs, arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?

Will you send us a maternity outfit?

We want:—For baby, four gowns, four barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins, three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother, two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

COST-PRICE RESTAURANTS.

High prices increase the need for our restaurants. At the same time the high prices make it harder and harder for us to pay our bills. Will you help?

OUR FACTORY.

Always buy your toys and shoes from the E.L.F.S., because we pay a living wage. Latest price lists may be had on application to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

CLOTHING STALLS.

Our four clothing stalls, where women can buy useful garments for their families for a few pence, are much appreciated. Our stock of clothing is getting low. Will friends send us some more?

JOIN THE GREAT

PROCESSION to PARLIAMENT

Tuesday night, July 20th,

TO DEMAND

NO REGISTER WITHOUT SAFEGUARDS!
NO COMPULSION!

EQUAL PAY FOR MEN AND WOMEN!

DOWN WITH SWEATING!

Women are working for 8s. a week in Munition Factories.

WAGES MUST RISE WITH PRICES!

DOWN WITH HIGH PRICES AND PROFITS!

VOTES FOR WOMEN TO PROTECT OUR HOMES AND WAGES!

MEN AND WOMEN YOU ARE ALL NEEDED.

BOW.—Form up at the Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Road, 8 p.m. March, 8.30 p.m. sharp, via Old Ford Road, Grove Road, Bow Road, Mile End Road, Whitechapel Road to—Gardiner's Corner.

POPLAR.—Form up at East India Dock Gates, 8 p.m. March 8.30 p.m. sharp, via Commercial Road to—Gardiner's Corner.

BOW AND POPLAR PROCESSIONS

Unite at Gardiner's Corner and march via Leadenhall Street, Cornhill, Queen Victoria Street, Cannon Street, Ludgate Hill, Fleet Street, Strand, Whitehall to—the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

IN HYDE PARK.

On Sunday, July 4th, the E.L.F.S. held a meeting in Hyde Park, at which Mrs. Drake was the speaker.

Miss Lagsding went down to sell DREADNOUGHTS at the gate, but, finding that other members had taken up their stand there, she went into the Park, and stood listening to the speaker with her papers over her arm. Several people came up to her and asked her for papers, one friend giving her 2s. for a copy. After five papers had been disposed of in this way, a policeman arrested her.

She was fined 5s. at Marlborough Street Police Court next morning.

In this case the authorities have certainly made a very harsh use of their power to prevent paper selling in the Park, for Miss Lagsding did not offer her papers for sale, she merely obliged a few people who asked her to let them have a paper.

WAR PROFITS.

On July 1st, Commander Bellairs drew the attention of the Financial Secretary to the War Office to the fact that two British armament firms have to pay royalties of 9d. to 1s. to Krupp's for every fuse made.

Mr. Forster said that the War Office had no power to intervene.

Always remember that the E.L.F.S. General Members' Meeting is held the third Monday in the month. The next General Members' Meeting will be held at 20 Railway Street, Poplar, on Monday, July 19th, at 8 p.m.

Keep that evening free.

IMPRISONED FOR A RECRUITING SPEECH!

TRUTH IS DANGEROUS!

On Sunday, July 4th, in Hyde Park, Mr. Herbert Broome, who is said to have got 50 recruits for the Navy, was speaking at a recruiting meeting.

At the close of his speech, a woman in the crowd asked him whether soldiers returning from the War could be sure of getting their jobs back if women had taken their places?

Mr. Broome replied that if women had taken the men's places at lower wages he was afraid not. He deplored the fact that railway men who had been paid 27s. a week had been replaced by girls at 12s. 6d., and stated that the employers who had done this thing were not patriotic.

An officer standing in the crowd said:—"You are doing more harm than good when you say that, and you will get into trouble."

When Mr. Broome stepped down from the platform a policeman said: "I must arrest you for using words prejudicial to recruiting."

Mr. Broome was summoned to appear at Marlborough Street Police Station next day, Monday, July 5th, and there sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment, without the option of a fine, for the words that he had used.

Those who wish to preserve liberty and to prevent sweating here at home should protest against this most outrageous sentence!

TRADE UNIONISTS.

It has been decided that women working on railways shall now be admitted to membership of the National Union of Railwaymen.

We are glad to notice this act of justice and common sense.

SUNDAY MEETINGS, JULY 11th.

VICTORIA PARK, 3.30.

Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST,
Mr. J. CLIFFORD ROWE.

EAST INDIA DOCK GATES,

8 p.m.
Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST,
Miss HOUGHTON.

VICTORIA PARK,

CROWN GATE, 8 p.m.
Miss SOMERS. Mrs. DRAKE.
Miss MANICOM.

E.L.F.S. & R.S.P.U.

CONCERT AND DANCE,

Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m.
In aid of BABIES' MILK FUND.

Specially good Programme.

Tickets 3d. Refreshments at popular prices.

WOMEN AND WAR SERVICE.

In Parliament on July 1st, Mr. Pretyman, for the Board of Trade, admitted, in reply to a question from Mr. Hogge, that 87,241 women had placed their names on the Special War Service Register up to June 18th. Of these 2,332 only had been given employment, and 342 had been given training of some kind including agricultural work, the grocery trade and motor driving.

It is a gravely serious thing that whilst skilled work is so greatly needed, and we have the big Prince of Wales's fund, which might be used for this purpose, so few people are being trained.

WOOLWICH SCANDAL.

On July 1st, Sir Albert Spicer drew attention to the fact that the Royal gun factory at Woolwich is only kept partially at work. Mr. Tennant, the Under Secretary for War, made an evasive reply, and stated that the large machines "cannot be run continuously, as there is not always a constant flow of large work."

Mr. Snowden declared that 97 per cent. of the large work was given out to private contractors, and only 3 per cent. reserved for the Arsenal. Mr. Crooks said that he and others had been complaining since April, and that steel and other material necessary for making the armaments actually ordered from the Arsenal by the Government, had been sent out of the Arsenal to be used by private firms, so that as a result men in the Nation's Arsenal were left idle and unable to execute the orders.

A representative of the *Daily Chronicle* reports, as the opinion of a skilled workman, that: "No business firm could keep out of bankruptcy for six months if it were carried on under such conditions as those which obtain in our national workshop. Every up-to-date workshop that I know of has a time-clock to keep check upon the workmen. There is nothing of the kind at Woolwich. There seems to be no order, nor method, anywhere. It took me from a quarter past noon until four o'clock to get my first week's wages."

THE EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES'
AND
LEAGUE OF RIGHTS'

OUTING,

— Sunday, July 18th. —

Steamer leaves
Blackwall Pier, Poplar, 10.30 a.m., to
RICHMOND AND BACK.

Tickets, including Dinner and Tea, **3**s. **6**d. each. Tea, **6**d. extra, optional.

LEAGUE OF RIGHTS
For Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives and Relatives.

EAST LONDON BRANCHES.

BOW BRANCH meets at the Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Road, 8 p.m., every Tuesday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. M. Lansbury.

BROMLEY BRANCH meets at 53 St. Leonard's Street, 8 p.m., every Tuesday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. McCheyne.

POPLAR BRANCH meets at 20 Railway Street, 8 p.m., every Tuesday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Drake.

WEST HAM BRANCH meets at 55 Fife Road, 8 p.m., every Monday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Millo.

EAST HAM BRANCH meets at Essex Hall, Wakefield Street, 8 p.m., every Monday. *Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Thompson.

The
Woman's Dreadnought.
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AGENTS:
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Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The ideal of National co-operation, the service of each and all for the welfare and safeguarding of the whole, which is supposed to be embodied in the National Registration Bill is very great; but when we come to consider Acts of Parliament, we must brush aside the clouds of oratorical promises that surround them and scrutinize the actual clauses of which they are composed.

When we do so, we must realize that because the National Register Bill is to be taken in conjunction with the Munitions Act, it is to be dreaded by every worker, because it endorses unequal payment of men and women for the same class of work and, whilst it does nothing to abolish the gross sweating of women, which obtains even in munition factories, it takes away from them even the right to struggle to help themselves.

Although it is universally admitted that the Government has made grave mistakes in regard to munitions, the Munitions Act gives the Government extended powers, without providing any check upon the Government, or means of assuring that its management shall be efficient and disinterested. Yet the pressing need for efficient production of munitions is the reason put forward to induce the workers to give up practically every liberty they possess.

NO CHECK on the GOVERNMENT.

Genuine efficiency and the absence of self interest are undoubtedly difficult to insure absolutely, but by a democratic handling of the situation, at least something in this direction can be done—the Act does nothing.

Great Municipalities have their elective "citizen" auditors constantly acting in the interests of the people. People's auditors of the war expenditure might either be elected or nominated by the various representative organisations of men and women. The great financial liabilities into which the country is entering, the scandals in regard to wheat, meat, freight charges, munitions, and so on, that are constantly being alleged, might well have suggested to the Government the duty of providing the public with some effective check on the business management of the war, but on the contrary, the Government has asked to be endowed with unchecked and absolute power.

GOVERNMENT'S POWERS.

The powers which it has taken, enable the Government, (1) to control production—the management of the workshops and the liberties of the worker; (2) to control the wages of workers; (3) to control the profits of employers.

The workers have been urged that it is fair that they should assent to the two first provisions, which apply mainly to them, and to forego their trade practices and customs and right to sell their labour as dearly as possible, on the ground that under the third provision, the State, and not the employer, is to benefit from their sacrifices. But now that the Bill has become an Act, it is clear that this promise has been broken.

LIMITATION OF PROFITS SWEPT AWAY.

It was at first stated that the profits of controlled factories were to be limited to an increase of one-fifth, *i.e.* 20 per cent., on the net profits made during the two years previous to the war. This was a very good bargain for most of the employers, for the two years previous to the war were good years for them. But the bargain was not considered good enough and such extensive modifications of the proposal to limit profits have now been introduced by the Government, that the principle of limitation has been practically swept away.

Sir John Simon, the new Home Secretary, stated in the debate on the Bill on July 1st, that the limitation of profits to the standard of the previous two years, plus one-fifth, did not mean limitation to the actual *amount* of money then made as profit, plus one-fifth, but *limitation to the proportion of profit on turnover, plus one-fifth.* Thus a firm that prior to the war was making a profit of £10,000, is now to be allowed a profit of £12,000, if the output remains the same, but *if the output be doubled, the profit will also be doubled, and become £24,000!*

The output of the controlled firms will undoubtedly be increased enormously, partly through the facilities provided by the Government, if the Minister of Munitions does what is expected of him; but still more by the efforts of the workers. It is very probable that those who are driving the workers on will, to a certain extent, over-reach themselves by impairing the workers' productive capacity through over-pressure, against which employees have no longer the power to protect themselves. But, in spite of this, the manufacturers are bound to benefit hugely, for, as everyone knows, the expenses of working are always lessened as production is increased. It is absolutely certain that vast sums of money will be piled up in profits by the big armament firms!

And Mr. Lloyd George, the Munitions Minister, will be given the right to decide to which firms these great benefits shall be given. Sir W. Essex said in the debate: "it seems to me an extraordinary thing that there is any Minister willing to take upon himself such a responsibility."

But the bargain with the manufacturers is not yet complete, still further safeguards have been introduced. *Only if the profit is very large* will a firm be limited to an increase of one-fifth on turnover, and by a new clause, "due consideration" is to be given "in respect of any establishment and any special circumstances, such as increase of output, provision of new machinery or plant, or alteration of capital, or other matters which require special consideration in relation to that particular establishment."

The decision of such matters is to be left to Sir Henry Babington Smith, who is, or has been, President of the National Bank of Turkey, also an accountant, and a man of business experience, whose names were not announced.

The control which the Government has taken power to exercise over the workshop, will apply chiefly to the toilers in the factories, as was clearly revealed by the debate in the House.

PUNITIVE POWERS TO BE USED AGAINST WORKERS.

Mr. J. M. Henderson pointed out that the Government has made very large advances to certain firms (in one case as much as £50,000), in order that these firms might supply themselves with necessary plant, buildings, and so on; yet in spite of this "Government control" will only mean to these firms that the Government will regulate disputes that may arise between employers and employed.

Mr. Philip Snowden secured the inclusion of words here and there to make certain punitive clauses apply to employers as well as to employed, but the whole trend of the debate showed that *the Munitions' Tribunals are intended for the workers.* And for the worker there is no such protective phrase as that which provides that the employer must "comply with any *reasonable* requirements of the Minister of Munitions." The worker must comply with *any* requirements.

The Bill, as originally drafted, gave no power of imprisonment to the Munitions' Tribunals, but now Munitions' Tribunals of the first class may impose imprisonment for non-payment of fines. Fines may be recovered from wages, and the Government refused to limit the amount which may be deducted from wages each week. Punishment by the Munitions' Tribunals does not safeguard anyone from being tried and punished a second time in the ordinary Courts.

The Munitions' Tribunals give a power of more than two to one against the worker, for the judge is appointed by the Government, and one assessor is a representative of the employers, one of the employees. The judge may be a local magistrate, or a Naval or Military Officer, if the Government pleases.

Every action of the workers will now be strictly under control. They may be tried and liable to punishment if late or absent, if they are alleged to talk or drink too much, or to work too little. Yet whilst a worker may not leave his or her employment in a controlled factory without permission of the Munitions' Tribunal, the Government resisted an amendment to give the worker the right of appeal to the Munitions' Factory, in case of unjust dismissal.

PROFITS INCREASE, WAGES STATIONARY.

The Bill provides that the employer shall always be entitled to more profit than before the war. It makes no such provision for the workers. They can obtain no increase of wages without the consent of the Minister of Munitions, and should either he or the employers refuse, the matter must go to arbitration.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

An amendment by Mr. Snowden that the arbitration court must take into consideration any rise in the cost of necessaries, was resisted by the Government, though pressed to a division, in which the Government secured a large majority. Yet should the price of materials rise, the contractors will at once announce increased prices and they will certainly get them.

The rising cost of living is steadily reducing the wages of all the workers in the country, and if the arbitrators decide against the workers in the controlled factories, and, by proclamation, any body of workers may be put under control, they will be powerless to protest, except under pain of imprisonment and fine.

The matter is an infinitely serious one and urgently calls for action.

CERTAIN SAFEGUARDS FOR MEN

In regard to wages, the men have still certain safeguards promised to them under the Munitions Act. The women have no safeguards whatsoever, and their helplessness, whilst laying them open to cruel exploitation, also makes them a constant source of danger to the men.

Many promises have been made by Mr. Lloyd George and others that if men, by working longer and harder, are able to turn out greater quantities of work, their piece-work rates shall not be reduced in consequence; and though the matter would be surer if words to this effect had been inserted in the Act, it is fairly certain that the pledge will be kept, for a time at least, especially as the cost of living is decreasing the value of wages from week to week.

NO SAFEGUARDS FOR WOMEN.

The Second Schedule of the Bill provided that—

(4) Where the custom of a shop is changed during the War by the introduction of semi-skilled men to perform work hitherto performed by a class of workmen of higher skill, the TIME- AND PIECE- rates paid shall be the usual rates of the district for that class of work.

(5) The relaxation of existing demarcation restrictions or admission of semi-skilled or female labour shall not affect adversely the rates customarily paid for the job. In cases where men who ordinarily do the work are adversely affected thereby, the necessary re-adjustment shall be maintained so that they can maintain their previous earnings.

The words "*time and piece,*" the very words that we have endeavoured to press upon Mr. Lloyd George and the Government in the case of women, were inserted in clause 4 on the motion of Mr. T. Wilson, *but clause 4 only applies to men.*

Mr. F. W. Jowett moved to use the word "*person*" instead of "*men and semi-skilled men,*" in order that clause 4 might also apply to women.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, the Labour Cabinet Minister, appealed to Mr. Jowett to withdraw his amendment, on the plea that the clauses of the schedule had been constructed at the three days conference, which took place at the Treasury.

He said: "Section (5) was constructed to enable women to be brought in, and wherever they were brought in they had to have the same piece-rate as men, so that if they did the same amount of work they would obtain the same amount of earning, and I think it would be a mistake to alter the schedule, having regard to the careful way in which the Clause was constructed."

Mr. W. C. Anderson followed on the same lines, saying that he "*hoped*" that there would not be sweated wages for time work, but that "something like a decent minimum should be given to women."

Hope is but a poor reed to cling to, and will neither feed and clothe a woman nor keep a roof over her head! No one knows better than Mr. W. C. Anderson that the promise that women shall receive equal *piece* work rates with men, is absolutely useless, for employers simply evade the provision by employing women on *time* rates in every case! Mr. Anderson has himself brought to the notice of the House very gross cases of sweating of women by armament manufacturers and other Government contractors.

As for the care with which Mr. Henderson says these clauses were drafted, it has been care very unintelligently used, so far as the wages of women are concerned. And so loosely are the phrases constructed, that when they, with the rest of the Treasury agreement were first announced and we wrote to Mr. Lloyd George, to ask whether women were

to receive the same pay as the men whom they replace, he had to reply that he must consider the matter, and not until several days later did he answer that women should have the same piece work rates as men.

Mr. Jowett withdrew his motion and the question was settled by default. But can it be allowed to end there?

Surely it is our duty to see that it shall not!

We must not allow ourselves to be stupefied by the unreal babbling of newspapers and Cabinet Ministers. We must remember always that we live in this same harsh old world that we have always known, in which, even in war time, unless we can prevent it, to him that hath shall be given and from him that hath not shall be taken, even that which he hath.

Therefore we must go on another pilgrimage to the House of Commons to demand—

Equal pay for men and women and the abolition of sweating.

The prevention of high prices and profits in food and fuel.

Votes for women, in order that they may protect their homes and their labour.

No compulsion for there are plenty of people always willing to work when even fairly decent conditions are offered.

Let us insist that the Government shall provide opportunities for the people to serve the nation on voluntary terms, instead of handing us over as bond slaves to contractors.

E. Sylvia Pankhurst.

Members of Parliament who voted for Mr. Snowden's amendment—"That in considering applications for advances in rates or wages, arbitration tribunals must take into account rises in the cost of living":—

W. C. Anderson (Lab.), Sir W. Byles (Lib.), J. R. Clynes (Lab.), Sir R. A. Cooper (U.), Ellis W. Davies (Lib.), Samuel Galbraith, F. W. Jowett (Lab.), Barnet Kenyon (Lib.), Joseph King (Lib.), J. R. Macdonald (Lab.), T. Richardson (Lab.), Phillip Snowden (Lab.), W. T. Wilson (Lab.).

Mr. Long stated in the House of Commons, on July 5th, that the Census of 1911 cost £174,000 exclusive of the cost of publication.

HOURS OF WORK.

The following official statement was issued by the Home Office:—

It has come to the notice of the Home Secretary that some misunderstanding prevails as to the effect of the new regulation under the Defence of the Realm Acts providing for exemptions from the Factory and Workshop Acts. The effect of the regulation is not wholly to exempt any factories from the protective provisions of these Acts, but to place the factories to which it applies in the same position as Crown factories and factories where Crown work is being done—that is to say, during the present emergency exemptions (which must be applied for in advance) may be granted in regard to specified provisions of the Acts by order of the Home Secretary.

If the occupier of any factory can show that his work is required in the national interest, and that by reason of the loss of men through enlistment or their transference to Government service, or of other circumstances arising out of the War, it cannot be carried on without some exemption, he should apply to the District Inspector of Factories.

On July 1st, Mr. W. Thorne stated in the House of Commons that hundreds of labourers engaged in munitions work at four Darlington firms were idle, because the firms had broken their agreement, made three months ago, to pay an advance in wages of 4s. to all workmen, and would only pay a 4s. advance to skilled men, and 2s. to labourers.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer acknowledges the receipt of £500 from "Government contractors" in respect of War profits. We suppose this to be conscience money!

WE DEMAND EQUAL PAY FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

Captain Williams speaking as a representative of the Board of Trade at a Women's War Service meeting in Manchester Town Hall, said that:

"Let me say at once that the underlying principle is that women shall get equal pay with men for equal results. The intention is not to engage a cheap substitute for men's labour."

But unfortunately the actions of the Government and its contractors fail to bear out these brave words!

At a meeting of the National Union of Railwaymen, Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., said, in regard to women workers:—"Whatever grades they work in or whatever positions they occupy, they must not be used as a means for reducing the prices that we have secured for particular grades by years of agitation. (Cheers.) If the Conciliation Board agreement says that a certain rate of wage must be paid for a certain grade, it does not say that that rate is for men only, and that it is not for women. What we have to say is that no woman's labour is to be made the means of reducing the status of any grade in the railway service. If we approach the question in that way, we are on the high road to victory. On the other hand, if there are any people who assert—as has already been suggested in a very limited quarter—that we ought to refuse to work with women labour, let me beg them not to follow any such course of action."

By similar wise action tramwaymen have secured that in most towns the women who are now being employed, are given the same rates as the men whom they have replaced. Good luck to the railwaymen in making the same fight for justice! Let other men's trade unions follow suit!

The Hull Corporation Tramways Committee has decided to employ women conductors, and to pay them 27s. a week, the same as the men, but to give the usual conductors' War bonuses to the drivers, who will be asked to turn the trolley poles for the women. The engagement is to be for the period of the War only.

Have women refused to turn trolley poles? And have they *agreed* to go without War bonuses?

The Lord Mayor reported that in Glasgow and Newcastle women are doing the work as well as men.

The *Daily News* writes that the Women's Medical College of Philadelphia has started a movement to collect funds in the United States, with which to send 30 or more American women physicians to the War zone, to assist in caring for necessitous mothers and babies there.

According to the *Daily News* report on the Women's Emergency Corps, women of all classes have volunteered for "War work" to set men free; but that failure to find employment does not "entail any extreme hardship."

The only interpretation this statement allows of is, that there are women now entering the labour market who hitherto lived a life of ease, or were ashamed to work. Now it is quite "smart" to drive a motor, or act as "postman," and women, who are able to be voluntary workers, are helping to flood the paid labour market. Under the cloak of patriotism they volunteer for paid work, unmindful of the wrong they are doing to their needy fellow women, who must work to live.

DISCOURAGING RECRUITING.

At the West London Police Court, a woman, whose husband had been arrested for not paying rates to the amount of £7, stated that she had eight children. Two sons had gone to the front—one was killed and the other wounded—still she had got no assistance from the War Office or charitable institutions.

This is a gross abuse of the power of imprisoning for debt, which is *supposed* to have been abolished in this so-called land of the free!

A SOLDIER'S MOTHER.

A mother writes: "My son would have been allowing me £1 a week had he been at home, and he was on half-pay when he enlisted. He is the only person I have to depend on as my husband is partially an invalid, and has not done any regular work for nearly ten years, as he is consumptive. If you wish for a doctor's note you can send to Doctor Kerr of Prestwich. I have four children not able to earn anything: their ages are 16 months, four years, nine years and eleven years, and I have had to go out to work to keep our home together, since my son went away, and we were given to understand I should get the full allowance. I am only receiving 4s. 6d. a week—4s. is from my son."

This woman's son told her that he went to the paymaster and that he was told that no allowance can be paid, because his father is living, although his father is an invalid and therefore also a dependant. So far as reducing the allowance because of him, it ought to be increased on his account.

Under the report of the select committee, we understood that where necessary one parent might be treated in regard to allowance as though he or she were the wife of a soldier, and the other parent and the younger brothers and sisters might be treated, in regard to allowance, as though they were a soldier's children. Here is a case where this course should be taken, but the authorities refuse to do it, and even refuse to treat the son's pre-war earnings as £1, they fix the mother's allowance on the half-time pay that he earned the last weeks before enlistment. There is nothing for this woman to do but to throw herself upon the poor law for aid, for, with the cost of every necessary risen to famine height, the family is reduced to a state of semi-starvation.

Members of Parliament frequently call attention to cases in which soldier's dependants do not get the money they are entitled to. On June 30th, Mr. Vincent Kennedy pleaded the cause of a soldier's mother who is not receiving the allotment that her son has made for her, though it is withheld from his pay. Also the case of a soldier's father who has two sons in the Army.

Mr. Forster said enquiries would be made.

On June 29, Mr. Pollock moved as a new clause to the Finance Bill that "income tax shall not be levied on any part of the pay of soldiers and sailors on active service, which does not exceed £400 a year."

The Government resisted this proposal, stating that it would cost the Treasury £970,000 a year, and the clause was defeated.

Mr. Chaplin said that he doubted "whether our gallant officers would themselves like to be treated in this particular manner," and that he could not help feeling that "one of the last things they would have in their minds is what they are going, or are not going to pay."

Mr. Chaplin is probably right—those who are really bearing the heat and burden of the day, are not usually the ones to give first thought to financial matters. We wish we had reason to hope that Mr. Chaplin and the Government would display the same spirit when they come to deal with the share of the War taxes that the great Government contractors and the wealthy financiers are to bear.

NO PENSIONS YET!

On July 1st, Mr. Forster, Financial Secretary to the War Office, said that "no scheme for pensions for dependants of soldiers has yet been approved."

Mr. Tennant stated in the House of Commons, on July 5th, that discharged soldiers, unfit for further service, are supplied with new suits of civilian clothes, and not second-hand clothing, which Colonel Warde implied. Further, that should they possess civilian clothes already, a money allowance is given instead. From our experience this is not done.

GIVE THIS PAPER TO A FRIEND.

COAL CONTRACTS.

In making its present coal contracts, the London County Council is obliged to pay in each case considerably more than last year. The following is a list of some of the contracts and the increase in price per ton:—

Fire Brigade Land Stations north of Thames, increase 13s. 9d.
Fire Brigade Land Stations south of Thames, increase 15s. 9d.
Fire Brigade Floating Stations, increase 12s. 9d.
Schools, Tramway Depots, etc., in North-East Bethnal Green, South-West Bethnal Green, Haggerston, Hoxton, Central Hackney, North Hackney, South Hackney, City of London, Bow and Bromley, Limehouse, Mile End, Poplar, Stepney, St. Georges-in-the-East, and Whitechapel, increase 11s. 5d. per ton.
Schools, etc., in Deptford, Greenwich, Lewisham, and Woolwich, increase 14s. 3d. per ton.
Tramways' Depot, Woolwich, increase 15s. per ton.
Schools, etc., in Bermondsey, North Camberwell, West Newington, Rotherhithe, West Southwark, and Walworth, increase 10s. 3d. per ton.
Tramway Depots in Deptford, Greenwich, Lewisham, and Woolwich, increase 11s. 7d. per ton.
Schools, etc., in North-East Bethnal Green, South-West Bethnal Green, Haggerston, Hoxton, Central Hackney, North Hackney, and South Hackney, increase 13s. 4d. per ton.
Schools, etc., in City of London, Bow and Bromley, Limehouse, Mile End, Poplar, Stepney, St. Georges-in-the-East, and Whitechapel, increase 13s. 7d. per ton.
Schools, etc., in Bermondsey, North Camberwell, West Newington, and Walworth, increase 12s. 8d. per ton.
Schools, etc., in Deptford, Greenwich, and Lewisham, increase 11s. 2d. per ton.
Schools, etc., in Woolwich, increase of 13s. 2d. per ton.

The average increase upon all the contracts is 9s. $9\frac{9}{15}$d. per ton.

The State has intervened on behalf of the gas companies for cheaper coal which are private companies. Municipalities have surely a greater claim to State aid.

On June 30th, Mr. Neville asked that fair prices should be fixed for food and coal.

Mr. Pretyman, answering on behalf of the President of the Board of Trade, said that the President would "see what can be done to give the public guidance as to fair prices."

The consuming public, who in the main consist of working women housekeepers, are not in need of guidance as to what "fair prices" are, but they are anxious to secure the commodities they need at fair prices, and they should have a voice in fixing them!

On June 30th, Mr. Macmaster questioned the Under-Secretary of State for War as to whether in Military camps the rations are allotted on the basis of the number of men actually present, or on the basis of the official numbers of the company. The reply that he got was not very decisive.

Mr. W. C. Anderson and Mr. Will Thorne then stated that Tunbridge Wells' butchers had bought stolen Army meat at 1½d. and 3½d. per lb., and after making it into sausages had sold it back to the Army at 5d. per lb.

CONTRACTORS MADE to PAY UP!

Messrs. Diamond and Beaver, of 1 Railway Place, Cambridge Road, E., and Messrs. Fifer, at the corner of Roman Road and Grove Road, Army contractors, through our intervention have been forced by the War Office to raise somewhat the rates they pay to their women workers, and to pay to the women the arrears of difference between the present rates and the old rates. The women will be very glad to get this extra money; but even now the rates are too low. We are glad to have been able to secure some slight improvement in these cases.

SWEATED WORKERS SHOULD WRITE TO US FOR ADVICE.

Mrs. Neuss, an old E.L.F.S. member, who has done good service for our cause, is an Englishwoman, married to a German who has lived for many years in this country, where their children have been born. During the anti-German riots, the home of Mrs. Neuss was entirely wrecked. We believe that members would like to give Mrs. Neuss some help in building up her home again, and we should be glad to receive the subscriptions of any who would care to send them to us for this purpose.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

BOW.

400 Old Ford Road, Bow.

Good meetings at Salmon Lane and Ford Road. Thanks to Mrs. Rowan and Mrs. Farrall for meeting speakers and selling *Dreadnoughts*, and also to other members who supported the speakers. On Sunday, July 11th, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst will speak in Victoria Park at 3.30 p.m. Members and friends, turn up in full force to support her and Mr. J. C. Rowe who will be in the chair, and to sell our paper and collect. Remember the Outing on July 18th (full particulars elsewhere); buy your tickets now. A particularly attractive programme has been arranged by Miss Smyth for the Social on Saturday, July 10th, 8 p.m. Be sure to come and to bring friends. Dancing after the musical and dramatic programme. Tickets 3d.

An urgent appeal is made to concentrate on the Demonstration on July 20th. Special open-air meetings will be held each evening from decorated cart touring the districts. Members should come to 400 Old Ford Road at 8 each evening, and at 3 in the afternoons to get some work to do. Chalkers, speakers, bill distributors, and poster paraders are wanted. Special poster parades arranged for Saturday afternoon, July 17th, and Monday evening July 19th. Who will help? We must work with all our might till the 20th!

Six splendid open-air meetings were held on Sunday.

Members will be glad to welcome Miss Beamish back after her illness.

Dreadnought sales, week ending July 3rd—535. Miss O'Brien 251, Mrs. Crabb 108, Mrs. Farrall 49, Mrs. Payne 22.

BROMLEY.

Joint Hon. Secretaries:
Mrs. McCheyne & Mrs. Mantle,
53 St. Leonard Street.

There was a very good attendance at Thursday's meeting; we were pleased to see so many strangers amongst those who usually come. Mrs. Scurr's address was much enjoyed by all. Will members please send in their monthly subscription for July as soon as possible, and any that have forgotten to pay last month's, send 2d. along to pay for June and July?

Tickets are now on sale at the shop for the Joint Social of the E.L.F.S. and R.S.P.U., in aid of the Babies' Milk Fund, which is to be held at 400 Old Ford Road, on Saturday, July 10th, at 8 p.m. All who are having milk for their babies should try their utmost to buy a ticket to keep the Fund going. The entertainment will be a particularly good one.

Dreadnoughts sold—43.

POPLAR.

The Women's Hall, 20 Railway St.
Organiser: Mrs. Drake.

By an oversight the Poplar report was left out last week, so this one must cover the two weeks. We have had good open-air and indoor meetings, and have been pleased to welcome some new members. This is good, as we *must* keep on growing, as, every day, we see the need of the Vote more than ever. Members, *please* speak about our meetings more, and let the people know when and where they are.

Miss S. Pankhurst would like a poster shown at Aldwych Tube Station for the *Dreadnought*, and has asked our branch to collect for it. Mrs. Bertram has given 2s. 6d. towards this, and we have three offers of 2s. 6d. as well. We hope to get the 35s.—that is the cost of it—by September, and shall welcome subscriptions for this purpose.

Names should be given in for Outing not later than July 12th. Members of League of Rights and friends are welcome to join this Excursion, and we look to you all to make this a success. Our club is now open from 8 to 10 on *Wednesday* evenings, and Miss Lagsding and members will be pleased to welcome visitors.

Do not forget the Social at 400 Old Ford Road, for Babies' Milk, on Saturday, July 10th, and come *here* for your tickets.

Papers sold week ending June 26th—214, week ending July 3rd—221. Miss Morgan Brown sold 50. Distributed 600. Miss Norrington is thanked for selling at Caxton Hall. A lady gave 2s. for a paper in Hyde Park. 43 sold at stall. Collections—Mrs. Bird 7s. 3d. and 8s. 1d. at Greens'; Mrs. Drake 12s. 2d. and 13s. 7d. at Cubitt Town. A Belgian gave 7½d. towards Babies' Milk. Miss E. Lagsding sold seven papers at Cubitt Town.

SOUTH WEST HAM.

55 Fife Road, Tidal Basin.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Daisy Parsons,
94 Ravenscroft Road.

Meeting at "Peacock" was addressed by Mr. Clifford Rowe and Miss Lynch. Crowd was enthusiastic, one man giving 1s. for one paper. On Thursday, Miss Pankhurst spoke at 124 Barking Road, and there was a good attendance as a result of Mrs. Mears canvassing with Miss Manicom. Four new members were made, and these are heartily welcomed. But what about the *Dreadnoughts* that need distributing: who will help Miss Penn to do 50 each week? How many tickets are needed for the Steamer Outing on July 18th? Tickets 4s. including dinner and tea. Some members do not know that men are welcome at our indoor meetings, so please come and bring your husbands. Don't forget July subscriptions.

Dreadnoughts sold last two weeks—141. Distributed by Mrs. Browne and Mrs. Mears 200.

Will friends who can provide homes for two babies, and country holidays for some hard-working women and girls, please write to us?

HACKNEY.

Offices: 175 Dalston Lane
(Facing Hackney Downs Station).
Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.

A splendid meeting was held in Lesbia Road last Monday evening. Mrs. Fix and Mrs. Page are thanked for their help. 24 papers were sold at the Meeting.

Miss Sands is congratulated upon her growing paper round; she has taken three dozen this week, we hope she will want more.

Miss Lynch gave a most interesting address last Tuesday afternoon. Hackney members like Irish history very much. Miss Houghton was most amusing on Thursday evening, and we were all very much impressed with her address.

We have still some excursion tickets in the office. Please apply for them as soon as possible.

We want more paper sellers in Hackney, so please give in your names at once, and the time you can spare. We shall be holding more open-air meetings, so this will give everyone a great opportunity to help the cause.

Don't forget—Excursion, July 18th—great Procession to Parliament, July 20th.

Papers sold 98. Distributed 50.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

NORTH LONDON M.P.U.

Hon. Sec.: Mr. H. G. Everett.
c/o Mr. Innes, 31 Balmes Road, Southgate Road.

A public meeting to demand Votes for Women this session from the "National" Government, will be held in Highbury Hall, Highbury Place, on Tuesday, July 13th, 8 p.m. Speakers: Rev. C. Isherwood and Mr. S. Franklin. Chair: Mr. H. G. Everett. Tickets 6d. and 3d., and there will be a few free seats.

A demonstration will be held in Finsbury Park on Sunday, July 18th. Procession from Highbury Corner, 3 p.m. Demonstration 3.30. Speakers: Rev. C. A. Wills, Mr. S. Franklin, Mr. H. G. Everett and others.

All members and sympathisers are asked to do their utmost to make both the meeting and demonstration a great success.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

For Milk and General Distress.—Miss I. Abraham 5.0.0, Mrs. Adshead 3.0.0, Mr. & Mrs. Sadd Brown (monthly) 3.0.0, Chas. Duloff, Esq. 3.0.0, Miss M. Davison 3.0.0, Mrs. Baillie Weaver (monthly) 2.10.0, Mrs. Milroy 2.2.0, C. Wright, Esq. 2.2.0, Mrs. English 2.2.0, Mrs. E. H. Coles 2.2.0, Mrs. R. Dalby 2.0.0, The Misses Collier (monthly) 2.0.0, Mrs. Hervey 3.0.0, Mrs. Green 2.0.0, Watson Smith, Esq (monthly for 1915) 1.16.0, Toolroom, etc.—L.S.A. factory 1.14.5½, per Mrs. Fox Strangways 1.12.10, R. H. Cabell, Esq. 1.1.0, Miss Bland 1.1.0, Mrs. G. Farquhar 1.1.0, Miss H. Myers 1.1.0, Miss Stuart Low 1.1.0, Miss Saxton 1.1.0, Mrs. Miller 1.0.0, Miss G. L. Smyth 1.0.0, Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett (monthly) 1.0.0, Mrs. Allchin 14.6, Mrs. Drake 13.7, Miss Roberts 10.6, Miss A. Frisby (collected) 10.0½, Girls of Southgate High School, Invercargill 1.0.0, Girls of Waroonga School, Hobart, 10.0, Mrs. Richmond (5s. weekly) 10.0, Miss I. V. Yeoman (weekly) 10.0 Mrs. Vatcher (5s. weekly) 10.0, Miss H. E. Raisin (monthly) 10.0, per Mrs. Garner 10.0, Miss N. E. Dunn 10.0, Mr. Lowy (monthly) 10.0, Mrs. Durrant (monthly) 10.0, Miss E. Canning in memory of Florence Canning 10.0, Anon—Stroud Green (weekly) 10.0, Mrs. Granger 10.0, Mrs. Tocker and Mrs. Peters 10.0, Mrs. Alldred 10.0, Anon 10.0, Mrs. E. A. Brown 10.0, Mrs. Marrioth 10.0, Miss Burroughs 10s. Miss Paull 10.0, E.L.F.S. factory workers per Mrs. Farrall 9.8½, Miss Marks (collected) 9.6½, Mrs. Crabb (collected) 9.0, Mrs. Bird 8.1, Miss Watts (collected) 7.9, Mrs. Belk Smith 7.6, Julius Singer, Esq. 7.2, Mrs. Lamartine Yates 7.0, Miss Gore Brown (monthly) 7.0, Mrs. Fox Strangways 6.0, Ruby Crabb (collected) 5.3½d. Mrs. Crabb (collected) 5.1, Miss J. Gibson 5.0, Mrs. Simpson (monthly) 5.0, Miss H. J. Pole 5.0, The Misses Barrowman 5.0, Miss Ethel Lowy (monthly) 5.0, Miss Griffiths 5.0, Miss A. M. Buchan 5 0 0, Miss E. Finke 5.0, Mrs. Way, 5.0, T. G. Crawley, Esq. 5.0, Mrs. Elliott 5.0, E. T. Blanchard, Esq., M.A., 5.0, Miss Campbell 5.0, collected at the Mother's Arms 4.10½, Milk collection—Bromley 4.10, Isobel Willman & Eveline Furness 4.3, Ruby Crabb (collected) 4.1½, Mrs. Gillies (monthly) 4.0, Mrs. Green 3.6, Miss Crabb 3.6, West Adams 3.6, Lizzie Bertram (collected) 2.8½, D. Wilkie, Esq. (monthly) 2.6, A Working Woman 2.6, Miss Couldrey 2.6, Mrs. Simpson (weekly) 2.6, Anon—for 'next generation' 2.6, Miss O'Brien (collected) 1.4½, Mrs. Mears (collected) 1.4, Miss Gwladus Llewhellin (collected) 1.2, Mrs. Saxby (0.6 per month) 1.0, Mrs. Honeybourne 1.0, Anon 0.7½, per Miss D. L. Dubock 0.6.

General Fund.—Mrs. Saunders 1.0.0, H. Guiterman, Esq. 1.0.0, Members' subs. (Poplar) 13.0, Aunt Edith 5.0, Members' subs. (Bow) 8.3, Canning Town (profits on teas) 4.8, Profits on Bow Club refreshments (Mrs. Crabb) 3.5, Collection (Women's Hall, Sunday) 3.3½, Collections (Hackney) 3.0, Members' subs. (Hackney) 2.9, Mr. Phillips (Acton) 2.6, Mrs. Lambert 2.5½, Collections (Barking Road) 2.5½, Members' subs. (Canning Town) 2.2, Miss Limouzine 1.0, Collection (Women's Hall) 8¾.

Gifts of Clothing, etc.—Mrs. John H. Clarke, Miss Frisby, Mrs. J. K. Watt, Miss Elsa von Halle, Anon, Mrs. Garner, Anon, Miss A. White, Anon, Mrs. Harrower, Anon, Miss Mary Ashton, Anon, Mrs. B. Trevor-Roper, Mrs. Zangwill, Mrs. Macleod, Miss Riggall, Mrs. de Fonblanque, Anon, Glaxo, Miss D. Lewis, Miss B. G. Gunn and little girls anxious to help.

The Manager—"Glaxo"—has very kindly sent us 144 tins of Glaxo, which is a most useful gift.

Send 4s. 4d. to become a Subscriber to the "WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT."

THE TRAMWAY DEFICIT.

WHO IS TO BLAME?

By Frank Smith, Ex-L.C.C.

Mr. Frank Smith here shows that there is no deficit on the working of the L.C.C. Trams, but a profit of £700,000, which has been used for the relief of local rates, up-keep of roads, and so on.

Readers of the Woman's Dreadnought will be curious to learn how it is that London's splendid Tram service—after carrying over 550 millions of passengers, running nearly 59 millions of miles, taking some £2,400,000 in fares, and having a surplus on working of upwards of £700,000—is working at a loss! According to the statements made at Spring Gardens, on Tuesday, June 29th, the result of the year's working, 1914-15, shows an estimated deficiency of £91,000.

If we are to believe the official statements the loss is due to the War—and the recent strike.

But, then, few sensible people believe official statements in these days, and the L.C.C. statement, in this case, can be turned down, for the simple reason that it hides, rather than discloses, the facts.

The reason for the present unsound condition of the London Tram service is summed up in one word—*mismanagement*. Not the mismanagement resulting from mistakes, or even ignorance, but that worst of all mismanagement; which arises from deliberate purpose.

The explanation is this: The majority in power in Spring Gardens are the sworn foes of everything in the nature of municipal enterprise. Events, since the Moderates have been in power, clearly show this. Their first work of destruction was the smashing up of the Works Department. Their next, the destruction of the Steamboat service. And year by year, by every method that could be adopted to secure their ends, they have sought to cripple and destroy the Tram service. Success has at last crowned their efforts. They are able to show—by figures—that the Tramways of London, under municipal management, do not pay.

In order to save themselves from the charge of mismanagement a reason has to be found, and this is forthcoming in the statement that: The War and the recent strike are to blame.

Naturally, readers of the Dreadnought will ask where the surplus of nearly £700,000 has gone. And this may be set out as follows:—£87,827 in local rates on the Tram lines, £134,400 on the upkeep of roads—all of which, by the way, the omnibus companies escape. £40,500 has been charged on account of street widenings, of which, of course, the omnibus companies take advantage—free. Then comes a charge of £330,000 for interest to financiers for borrowed money. These payments, together with unnecessarily large sinking fund charges to repay the cost of construction, together with "working expenses" swallow up the remainder.

The real reason for the present unsatisfactory financial position of London's Tramway service is due to the unfair burdens which it is the joy of the Moderate party to impose. And this will be ever so, so long as the workers of London return such people to power—and the workers will deserve it; at any rate they will have to bear it.

It is true that the strike has cost the people of London over £100,000, but that is not the fault of the men who "downed tools," but of the Council, who, refusing to recognise their just grievances, goaded them into taking that step.

Whoever may be inclined to find fault with the Tram men, it must be borne in mind that they had good grounds for their action. Many of them were, and are, engaged 14, 15 and 16 hours a day—by "split duties"—to complete a 10-hour day's work.

The cost of food, as we all know, has gone up 30% to 40%, and when, the men asked for a 15% rise in wages, to meet this extra cost, they were contemptuously refused. Moreover, their spread-over times were, in many cases, increased. There was only one course open—to make an effort to fight for an improvement in their condition, which could not be secured otherwise.

The strike failed, but it is worth noting that, while it was admitted that £80,000 would have covered the increase of wages asked for, the refusal of the Council to thus act justly by the men, has cost London *over £100,000*.

While, therefore, it is true that for the first time since its inception the income of the Tramways of London has not met its expenditure, the real truth of the matter is that neither the War nor the strike is responsible, but deliberate and wilful mismanagement, and that if the people's Trams are to be saved, the only way to do it is by electing to Spring Gardens men and women who believe in municipal effort as distinct from private enterprise run in the interests of profit mongers.

ENGLISH BORN AND BRED.

An old age pensioner, widow of a German, but herself British born and bred, desired to be naturalised, in order that she should not have to suffer from the insulting restrictions which an alien has to face, and also because she is thoroughly British in sentiment. On taking the necessary steps to become naturalised, she discovered that she had to pay 2s. for the preliminary papers, 5s. naturalisation fee, also the fee of the Commissioner of Oaths or Justice of the Peace, and a further 2s. 6d. after the oath of allegiance is taken. How is she to meet these expenses out of her weekly 5s., when already the high cost of living has thrown her into a state of semi-starvation?

Old age pensioners who have relatives at the front are entitled to claim their full pension, irrespective of any allowance that they may get from the War Office or the Admiralty.

On June 29th, Mr. Butcher asked that a circular should be issued to pensions' officers, making this rule plain.

Mr. McKenna refused to issue such a circular, until it should be proved that pensions' officers were not obeying the rule.

The *Daily News* reports:—"A fire which involved the death of three little children, aged 4 years, 2 years, and 7 months, occurred recently at a house occupied by Samuel Kilinsky, a Jewish waiter, in Varden Street, off New Road, Commercial Road, E.

"Three elder children had gone to school, and between 10 and 11 a.m. the mother went out on an errand, leaving the three younger children asleep in bed in a room on the first floor. She was absent only a few moments, but on returning found the place in flames. The children died on their way to the hospital. There was no fire in the room."

We want more Day Nurseries.

In answer to our S.O.S. call of last week we received many donations and letters, from which we print the following extracts:—

"When will the State care for the mothers and babies? We are all thrilled through when we hear of our brave soldiers dying on the battlefield, but how few think of the thousands of little lives that are sacrificed every year?"

"Dear Madam,—I enclose 4s. 3d. for your fund. My friend, Isobel Willman (aged twelve), and I (aged ten), have made and sold paper flowers, balls, fly rests, etc., in order to raise a small sum for your said fund. Our class at work-day school collected twice for your fund and got £1 each time.

I hope your babies are getting quite plump.—Yours truly,

Eveline Furness."

The Board of Agriculture called attention to the fact that new potatoes are being used in large quantities, thus causing great waste. The season is now far advanced, so we think it rather late in the day to think of taking precautions now!

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